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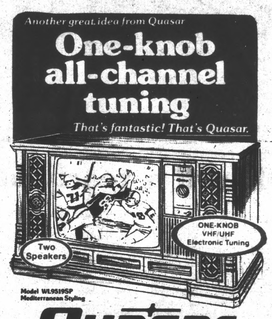

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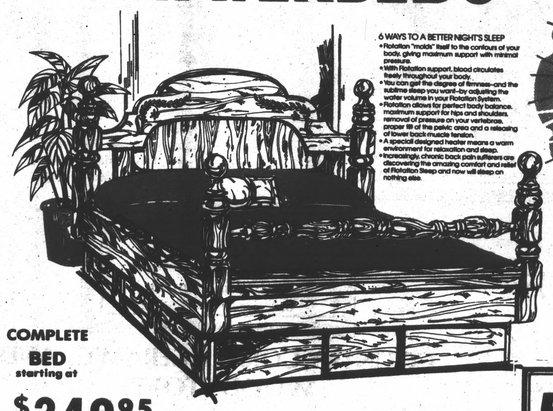
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Pamplin School Issue

Board says closing will save $526,000

By BILL SHERROD

Closing Pamplin Elementary School could save Appomattox County as much as $526,000 in the next three years, according to Lloyd Walton, superintendent of schools in Appomattox County.

Walton presented information at Wednesday's School Board meeting and again at Friday's Board of Supervisors meeting supporting the closing of Pamplin Elementary School.

Noting that the projections are "Fiscally conservative", Walton said the school division could save $109,000 in the 1982-83 school year, $130,00 in the 1983-84 school year, and $152,000 in the 1984-85 school year on operational costs if the Pamplin Elementary School is closed.

In addition, the school division would save approximately $135,000 in renovation costs needed to bring the Pamplin school up to minimal facility standards, according to Walton.

Thus, according to Walton's figures, the total anticipated savings to the county over the three-year period would be $526,000.

Walton said the operational savings would be achieved by reducing the staff currently needed to keep the Pamplin Elementary School open. He noted that enrollment county-wide is declining, and will continue to decline through the remainder of this decade.

As a result of the declining enrollment, Walton said, the students who would normally attend Pamplin Elementary School could be absorbed by schools in the town of Appomattox, without creating space problems or creating an unfavorable teacher-student ratio.

Walton added that the expense of transporting the students from Pamplin to Appomattox would be minimal, since four of the five school buses which currently serve Pamplin go into Appomattox after completing their Pamplin routes.

Walton added that at present, the cost per student at Pamplin Elementary School is figured at $1,000 per child, while the cost per student at Appomattox Elementary School is figured at $793 per child. "And more services are offered at the Appomattox School," Walton said.

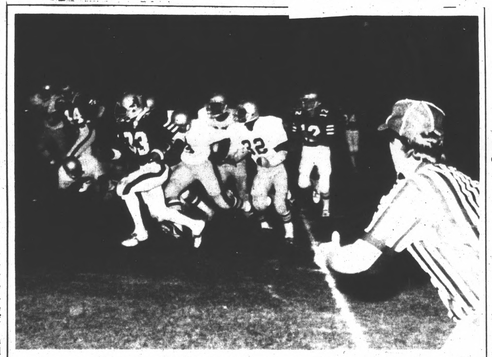
Walton noted that the issue of closing the Pamplin School is a "matter that concerns everyone in the county because of the tax money involved."

He added that he believes the school board can "provide instructional opportunities for all the students with the Pamplin School closed that can't be offered now with the school open," because of monetary considerations.

The closing of the Pamplin school became a controversial issue this month when Pamplin PTA members and other concerned residents of the area spoke out in opposition to the school's being closed.

The information released at the School Board and Board of Supervisors meetings was to be presented at a meeting between members of the Pamplin PTA and the school board Tuesday evening after the Times-Virginian deadline.

Walton added that a public hearing will be held in the county courthouse Tuesday, Sept. 29, at 7:30 p.m., for any interested persons who wish to comment on or ask questions about the idea of closing the Pamplin school.



DENNIS FLESHMAN, leading Raider ground gainer in Friday night's game against William Campbell, charges around left end for substantial yardage. The Raiders played tough defense for three quarters Friday night, but finally succumbed to the explosive offense of the Generals, 13-0. See story, another photo on sports page. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

Good Gainer

Our Lady Of Peace

Church starts funding drive

By FRANCES H. PAULETTE

Our Lady Of Peace Catholic Parish has begun a community-wide fund drive that got underway on September 10 and will continue through September 30.

The Parish hopes to raise up to $10,000 from it's many friends, said a spokesman for the group.

Groundbreaking for the building program which will cost approximately $150,000, was held on August 29.

Plans calls for a Parish Hall providing a large multi-purpose space to be used for worship, receptions, dinners, and educational activities. A small chapel will be provided for quiet reflection, daily mass and reconciliation.

In Appomattox, the Catholic worship style is one of hospitality as compared to a more traditional style in older parishes, according to a parish member.

The Rev. Walter F. Sullivan, who has visited Appomattox several times, suggested that when choosing a design for the church that the design of the building be in keeping with the historical significance of this area.

The church will be located just south of the Appomattox Historic National Park at intersection of 631 and 627.

The architect has designed a simple building with a pitched roof with an exterior of natural western cedar verticle siding.

A focal point will be the entrance, which it is hoped "will welcome those who approach with a natural openess. Inside the entrance is a gathering space or 'commons' for people to greet each other before going into the Parish Hall."

The Appomattox Catholic Community has shared facilities with other faiths, particularly the Memorial United Methodist Church.

Catholics of this community first gathered together for a Vacation Bible School in the summer of 1974 at the Evergreen Memorial United Methodist Church.

With approximately 35 families comprising the church membership, the group now meets in the Oakville Community Center at 11:30 each Sunday.

Dr. A.A. Fratrick, Parish Council Chairman, said, "We hope to be a much greater asset to the community when our building is completed. To those considering Appomattox as a place to live, a church of their faith is important. Also, with the opportunity to worship in Appomattox, tourists of the Catholic faith may stay for a longer period of time. Our Lady Of Peace Catholic Church is the first Catholic Church in Appomattox County."

Road work impaired

Road improvements in Appomattox have suffered a serious setback, according to Thomas Pittman, district engineer for the state Department of Highways and Transportation.

Pittman told the Board of Supervisors Friday that a proposed $167,000 highway department budget for road improvement in Appomattox County had been reduced to approximately $35,000 to $40,000, or one-third of the $125,000 allotment set aside for Appomattox and Campbell Counties.

Pittman noted that this will drastically reduce the number of road improvements made in Appomattox County this fiscal year.

He noted that cash on hand in the highway department coffers had reached a point so low that word came from Richmond to "freeze all work".

"Then," Pittman continued, we got word of the reduced budget."

Pittmen noted that roads will continue to be maintained in a "travelable" condition. He said the budget cutback affects only funds allocated for road improvements, not funds for road maintanance.

Appomattox County is going to have a "Turn Of The Century Museum". The Appomattox County Board of Supervisors has granted permission to the Appomattox County Historical Society to use a part of the old jail for this purpose. Jimmy Drinkard, society member is shown working on the building. One of the jail cells will be restored to the original appearance by Appomattox Historical Railroad Day in October. [Photo by Frances H. Paulette]

Adult registration continues

Registration for first semester adult education classes which will begin September 21 is continuing throughout this week. Adults who are interested and who want to participate in classes that are being offered the first semester by the Appomattox County School Division are requested to register now by calling 352-8253 between the hours of 8:30 - 5:00 or by mailing in a registration form. Please look at the Adult Education schedule located elsewhere in this issue of the Times-Virginian for information concerning classes offered.

"It is very important that persons pre-register for classes," states R. B. Carter, Coordinator of Adult Education. "Pre-registration is used to determine whether enrollment is sufficient to offer a particular class. An enrollment of ten persons is required for a class to be offered."

Persons who desire information concerning an adult class are requested to contact the School Board Office by calling 352-8253.

Town clarifies boundary

By BILL SHERROD

Appomattox Town Council voted Monday night to clarify the town boundary along Countryside Drive as being the property lines to those lots on the east side of Countryside Drive.

Council members also voted to recommend to the Planning Commission that the seven lots in questions be zoned R-1, with a conditional use provision for the property of Dr. Larry Smith.

Smith had requested earlier that he be granted a conditional use ruling for his land, where he hopes to build a professional office sometime in the future.

The town boundary in the area of Countryside Drive had been in question for some time, due to the lack of a deed stipulating permanent boundary markers.

Council members also were informed at Monday's meeting that a Lynchburg firm which had expressed interest in purchasing the Appomattox cable television franchise has decided that it will not make an effort to purchasese the business.

The franchise, which is curretnly held by Arco, Inc., a Pennsylvania company, is due to expire in 30 days.

Council members voted to allow American Federal Savings and Loan to bid on town investment monies.

The town charter was recently re-written and changed to allow council members to decide whether town funds can be invested with institutions outside the corporate limits of the town.

Councilman Dick Bass noted that American Federal, located at Triangle Plaza Shopping Center, "is a part of the town as far I'm concerned," and moved that the savings and loan associaiton be allowed to bid on town investments.

Council members also agreed to increase their insurance coverage on fire equipment in and outside of the fire hall by $50,000.

Al Almond wins

Alex Almond edged out Otto Smith on a tiebreaker to win last week's Times-Virginian football contest.

Almond, Smith and Phil Bollinger all missed accurately predicting the outcomes of five of the 25 games featured in the football contest.

In the two tiebreaker games, where each contestant attempts to predict the exact score of two specified games, Almond's predictions had the smallest point differential from the games' actual scores, followed by Smith's and Bollinger's.

Almond will receive a check for $20 from the Times-Virginian and a free chicken dinner from the Chicken Palace, for his winning efforts. Smith will receive a check for $10 from the paper and a free chicken dinner from the Chicken Palace for capturing second place in the contest.

In a week marked by upsets in the football world, particularly at the college level, competition was tough among the 80 entrants in the football contest. Only one person -- Leonard H. Goin -- accurately predicted the outcome of the Alabama-Georgia Tech game, which Georgia Tech won. However, Goin missed accurately predicting the outcome of seven games total and was not in the running for the contest crown last week.

The football contest, a popular autumn feature in the Times-Virginian for several years, is again featured within the pages of this week's paper. Full details on prizes and rules of the contest are on the contest page, page 12.

Local 4-H youths excel

The Appomattox County 4-H Forestry Judging Team composed of Glen McClenny, Blair Smith, Dale Glover and Richard Conner participated in the second 4-H Forestry Invitational at Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp, Weston, West Virginia. About 40 members and coaches from 10 states attended.

The five-day session, August 10-14, 1981, included training and competitive events to help young people develop leadership skills and broaden their knowledge of conservation practices and forestry management.

The program was made possible with support from International Paper Company, sponsor of the national 4-H forestry awards program, arranged by National 4-H Council.

Teams from six states, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia competed for honors in: tree identification, tree measurement, forest evaluation, insect and disease identification and compass traverse. The Virginia Team captured first place in the overall event. Blair Smith was recognized as high individual in the contest with Glen McClenny 3rd individual and Richard Conner 4th high individual. Engraved plaques were presented to each member of the winning team and to Extension Agent, Frank Sweet, who accompanied the Virginia group.

Prior to the competition the 4-H members, including observers from Florida, Louisiana, South Carolina and Maryland, participated in practical hands-on training. Climax of the competition was a "forestry bowl" to test participants' knowledge of forestry and conservation practices. The West Virginia Team placed first in the "Bowl" event while the Virginia Team placed second.

On the final day, participants competed informally in field events such as cross cut sawing, log rolling, pulpwood and disc throws and tender-foot fire building. The field events were held for fun and experience, and were enjoyed by all 4-H participants.

At the final awards luncheon, Emily Williamson, representing International Paper Company, presented the awards. Each team member for the six participating states received recognition and each state was presented a plaque. Banquet speakers included Mr. John Ohman of the US Forest Service and Dr. Ed Rapking of the West Virginia State 4-H Department.

A special feature of the Friday morning program included the rededication of the Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp as a National Tree Farm. This annual national observance included representatives from the U. S. Forest Service, as well as West Virginia foresters and National 4-H and Extension staff.

The event was planned and conducted by a National 4-H Forestry Developmental Committee representing the cooperative Extension Service of the State Land-Grant Universities and the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Joseph N. Yeager, Extension Specialist, forestry, West Virginia University, was chairman.

JACKSON'S MILL STATE 4-H CAMP, WESTON, WV, August 14, 1981 — Forty 4-H members and coaches from 10 states participated in the second 4-H Forestry Invitational here this week. The five day session included training and competitive events to help young people develop leadership skills and broaden their knowledge of conservation practices and forestry management. The program was planned by a National 4-H Forestry Developmental Committee representing the Cooperative Extension Service of the State Land-Grant Universities and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The event was made possible with support from International Paper Company, sponsor of the national 4-H forestry awards program, arranged by National 4-H Council. Pictured above is Virginia team — left to right — Richard Conner, Dale Glover, Glen McClenny, Blair Smith, and coach Frank Sweet.

WOW meeting slated

The Woodmen of the World, Camp 71, will hold a ceremony of introduction on Monday, September 21 at 7:30 at the WOW Hall.

All team members and officers are urged to be present.

Father Darkleaf

By CALVIN ROBINSON

I did not have to look at the calendar early Monday morning to know the time. Leaves were falling, and so far as I am concerned, it is Fall. Actually the falling leaves were not on my yard, for I have mostly pines. But I got the message. The next six weeks will be colorful months in Virginia as Nature daubs its magic brush. Fetch the rake but know what you're doing before striking a match.

Nor were falling leaves the only sign of the time of year. Sunday afternoon Bro. Tom Coleman sent me some chinquspins. Nice as I ever saw. My neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. K. E. Coleman, brought them by along with watermelon. Thanks. You do not need to know how to spell chinquapin to enjoy this treat. In recent years there has not been a good crop, so am glad to know chinquapins are in. How about chestnuts?

Bro. Jim Eanes, of The Crewe-Burkeville Journal, admits to being a regular Darkleaf reader for some twenty years. Sent me a nice letter and copy of his fine paper. He does a column called Notes From the Editor's Desk. And from Mrs. A. J. Schroeder, of Texas City, Texas, comes a recent copy of The Times-Picayune and The States-Item, of New Orleans, and Vol. 1, No. 1 of a new paper, The Shopper. It is great to have friends.

• • •

Fair time. The Five-County Fair, Farmville will attract local visitors and the big State Fair in Richmond opens next week. Favorable weather might send the total attendance at the State Fair over half a million. There will be showing.

• • •

I got too enthusiastic in chopping weeds and chopped down the two cotton plants in my garden. It is a shame.

• • •

When I came to Appomattox fifty years ago and began my career as editor and publisher, one of my first acts was to seek out people to write weekly news letters from their community. One of the first was Miss Cassie Baldwin, with the news from Rocks. Still at it, and thanks for all those fine news letters, Miss Cassie.

• • •

Hope lots of readers are planning to plant flower bulbs this fall. Will pay off in Spring. And what about the supply of winter wood? Signing off, wishing YOU the best and thanks for reading.

over 1,000 horses, 4,000 other animals and worlds of exhibits. Anyone remember the fine county fairs we used to have here at Appomattox? Harness racing, too.

• • •

ACHS takes on Rustburg in football this week. Last week lost to William Campbell, but the local junior varsity won, and the ACHS girls are making a top showing in basketball.

• • •

Some good football games all over. Wayne State 14, Slippery Rock 13. Mighty Alabama lost one. Same for the Redskins.

• • •

As a sports fan, I am prone to root for the underdog. Sometimes the underdog wins, but percentagewise I often have to be content if my favorite makes a respectable

SEP